



## The Corporation of the Township of Huron-Kinloss

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### Staff Report

**Report Title: Water-Wastewater Report March 2026**

**Date: Mar. 2, 2026**

**Report Number: PW-2026-09**

**Department: Public Works**

**File Number: C11 PW26**

**Prepared By: Geoff Aitken, CET, Manager of Environmental Services**

**Attachments: Monthly Report – 02 February 2026**

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#### **Recommendation:**

THAT the Township of Huron-Kinloss Committee of the Whole hereby receives for information Report PW-2026-09 prepared by Geoff Aitken, Manager of Environmental Services.

#### **Background:**

##### Wastewater Collection CLI ECA

The Township (Twp) is in receipt of two (2) Consolidated Linear Infrastructure – Environmental Compliance Approvals (CLI ECA); one (1) for the Huron-Kinloss Municipal Sewage collection system; and a second CLI ECA for the Huon Kinloss Municipal Storm Water Management System.

This report will focus on the Sewage Collection System CLI ECA; which includes all sanitary wastewater collection systems in Lucknow and Ripley. Within the CLI ECA itself there are various actions and reports the Twp needs to complete, including: the installation of signage, a Significant Drinking Water Threat Assessment Report for Proposed Alterations, and. An Assessment of Wet Weather Flows Compared to Dry Weather Flows. A future report will speak to the requirements found in the Municipal Storm Water Management System CLI ECA.

##### Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks-Inspection Report

As noted in the previous staff report, to be following legislation, each drinking water system must undergo an annual inspection by the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) before the end of their fiscal year. The Township of Huron-Kinloss (Twp) is in receipt of the inspection report for the 2025/26 fiscal year for the Lucknow Drinking Water System (DWS) and Whitechurch DWS.

##### Environmental Compliance Approval (ECA) – Ripley Lagoons

The Township (Twp) is in receipt of an updated Environmental Compliance Approval (ECA) for the Ripley Lagoons. This is significant because the ECA allows for the installation of a septage receiving station at the Ripley lift station.

## Monthly Summary

Our Operating Authority, OCWA, has prepared a summary of the water and wastewater operations over the past month, which is attached to this report.

### **Discussion/Analysis/Overview:**

#### Wastewater Collection CLI ECA

In the sewage collection CLI ECA, there are multiple administrative requirements for the Twp to undertake. This staff report addresses signage. The requirement is for the installation of signage at locations that may be subject to bypass(es) and/or overflows. In the case of the Huron-Kinloss wastewater collection system, there are two (2) potential points for a bypass/overflow, one (1) in Ripley, at the intersection of Ripley & Park Streets; and one (1) in Lucknow, at the south end of Inglis Street. Each site requires one (1) sign.

In the case of Ripley, there is no known knowledge of a bypass or overflow occurring. In the case of Lucknow, the last bypass event occurred in 2018. The Twp is in receipt of the signs, and they will be installed when conditions permit.

#### Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks-Inspection Report

The Lucknow DWS received an Inspection Rating of 97.66% and Whitechurch rating is 100%.

The remaining 2.34% (Inspection Risk Rating) in Lucknow is the result of an inadequate distribution of lead sampling collection points within the Lucknow distribution system, specifically the Lucknow south system. The current operating authority, OCWA, has revised the sampling protocol to ensure the Lucknow south system is sampled. There are no known lead service connections in the Lucknow south system and therefore there was/is no risk to the public.

It is a legislative requirement for Council to be aware of the ongoing operations of the waterworks itself. In the case of Huron-Kinloss, Council has predominately relied on staff to advise of the status of operations. For normal routine operations, staff provide an update to Council based on various milestones over the course of the year. The receipt of the Lucknow DWS inspection report is the catalyst for this report.

#### Environmental Compliance Approval – Ripley Lagoon

The Twp is now in receipt of a revised ECA for the Ripley Lagoons. Upon review, the ECA is less restrictive than previous ECAs with respect to septage and leachate collection; allows for the collection of up to 1,000 m<sup>3</sup> of combined septage and leachate throughout the calendar year; and permits the construction of a septage/leachate dumping station at the Ripley sewage lift station. This is significant because it allows for disposal of septage from rural Huron-Kinloss residences; and, allows for treatment of the septage before it enters the lagoons.

In 2025, the Twp was in receipt of 600 m<sup>3</sup> of septage. In 2026, the volume and quality (strength) of the septage will be closely monitored.

## Monthly Summary

### *Drinking Water Systems*

Since OCWA's previous report, OCWA reports relatively minor issues with equipment, maintenance, leaks and power outages.

Of note: on Sunday, February 8, 2026, OCWA repaired a watermain break in Ripley at the corner of Park and McGill Streets. This resulted in a water interruption from Huron Street to Gladstone Street, for 15 minutes, while crews made the repair. OCWA then flushed for 30 minutes to ensure an adequate chlorine residual and to eliminate any coloured water.

All identified issues have been addressed and there was no threat to public health and safety.

### *Lagoons*

In February, the fuses at the transformer serving the Ripley Lagoon blew. Hydro crews were able to repair in a timely fashion and there was no negative impact to lagoon operations. There was no adverse impact to operations.

### **Financial Impacts:**

There is no financial impact because of this report. The costs related to sample collection and analysis, are part of the operating budget.

In the 2026 capital budget, there is \$50,000 identified for the Ripley septage receiving station construction.

### **Performance Measurement:**

Township staff are now tracking: the volume of imported sewage accepted based on an estimate provided by the hauler. We are planning to eventually install a flow meter in the new imported sewage dumping station to provide improved volume accuracy.

### **Strategic Area:**

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|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Embrace a thriving rural lifestyle | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Enhance Municipal Service Delivery |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prepare for Inclusive Growth       | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ensure Financial Stability         |

### **Strategic Goal: Protect, promote and restore our natural environment**

### **Respectfully Submitted By:**

Geoff Aitken, Manager of Environmental Services

### **Report Approved By:**

Jodi MacArthur, Chief Administrative Officer